

# SHAKE HANDS WITH THE DEVIL

Shooting location: Kigali, Rwanda

***Shake Hands with the Devil*** is produced by Halifax Film, Barna-Alper Productions and Seville Productions with the participation of Telefilm Canada, The Movie Network, Super Écran, Movie Central, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Radio-Canada, The Harold Greenberg Fund, Film Finances Canada Limited and Head Gear Films Limited.

Distributed in Canada by Seville Pictures

## SYNOPSIS

The feature film *Shake Hands with the Devil*, based on Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire's award-winning book, is directed by **Roger Spottiswoode**, and stars the highly esteemed actor and Quebecois **Roy Dupuis** as Dallaire. **Deborah Kara Unger** portrays one of the few journalists who remained in Rwanda after the genocide began. The cast also includes **Jean-Hughes Anglade** as Bernard Kouchner (a founder of Médecins Sans Frontières). **James Gallanders**, **Tom McManus**, **Michel Mongeau** and **Owen Lebakeng Sejake** play the courageous officers who stood with Dallaire, and **Maury Chaykin** appears in a sly cameo as a retentive supply staffer. A dramatization from Oscar® winning Producer **Michael Donovan** and multi-award-winning Producer **Laszlo Barna**, *Shake Hands with the Devil* was filmed in Rwanda using many of the actual locations described in the book.

*Shake Hands with the Devil* is the story of a Canadian commander torn between his duty and his conscience when he finds himself eyewitness to hell on earth. In 1993 the United Nations dispatches Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire to far-off Rwanda to oversee a fragile cease-fire. A brilliant, workaholic officer and charismatic commander, Dallaire encounters the shabby—sometimes comically shabby—reality of a typical UN peacekeeping operation: underfunded, over-bureaucratic, and cobbled together from military units from dozens of countries, each with a slightly different agenda. Meanwhile the peace agreement between the rebels, led by the minority ethnic group, the Tutsi, and the French-supported government dominated by the majority group, the Hutu, turns out to rest on shaky ground. Conciliatory speeches are undercut by mysterious massacres. Just months after Dallaire raises the UN flag, an unknown group shoots down the President's plane. Are the rebels to blame or the Hutu extremists in the President's own party? (Nobody knows to this day.) With the plane crash, the storm breaks and a secret but long-planned genocidal campaign against the Tutsi minority begins with a night of terror in Kigali.

Given neither the authority nor sufficient forces to avert the crisis, Lieutenant-General Dallaire nonetheless does his utmost to stem the bloodshed. As he negotiates with the complex personalities of the Rwandan military men and politicians on both sides to prevent the resurgence of the civil war, he has to confront mounting evidence that a deliberate massacre of the innocents is underway. While trying to take decisive action to stop the genocide, he is undercut by his own far-away superiors—who have their own political interests to protect—and by the studied indifference of the world's great powers. As he learns to his fury, it seems to be in nobody's 'interest' to save almost a million Rwandan lives.

Powerless to prevent the country's descent into hell, Lieutenant-General Dallaire is ordered home. He disobeys. He insists on staying to save those he can from the genocide, while trying to do everything possible to stop it. When the Belgians pull out their contingent, after ten of their soldiers are killed—shades of Mogadishu, he must stand by and watch as his best-equipped troops leave. When New York cancels the peace mission entirely, he knows his only chance for reinforcement lies with helping the media cover the almost unspeakable truth of what is happening in Rwanda. Promising journalists a story every day if they will stay, Lieutenant-General Dallaire attempts to shame the international community into action.

In the end, he saves some 30,000 people, but 800,000 have died in the span of only a hundred days. What he was able to do seems to him all too little, and he returns to Canada a shattered, haunted man who has lost everything but his sense of his continued mission to remind the world that the tragedy of Rwanda could have been prevented—and that new genocides like the one taking place in Darfur demand effective intervention by the larger world.

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## FILMOGRAPHY AND BIOGRAPHY

### ROY DUPUIS

Upon his graduation from National Theatre School in 1986, Roy Dupuis was offered major roles in theatre, cinema and television.

Thanks to his role as Ovila Pronovost in the television series *Emilie (Les Filles de Caleb)*, Roy won the hearts of audiences in Québec and the Gémeaux for Best Male Actor for his incredible performance. His television success continued with the character of Michel Gagné in *Scoop* and of Oliva Dionne in the miniseries about the Dionne quintuplets *Million Dollar Babies*. Roy was then offered the title role in *The Maurice Rocket Richard Story (Maurice Richard: Histoire d'un Canadien)*, for which he earned a nomination for Best Male Actor at the Gala Métrostar. Today, Roy Dupuis is popular worldwide thanks to his portrayal of Michael in the American series *Nikita (La Femme Nikita)*, shown in more than 50 countries, including the United States and Canada. He also recently appeared in *The Last Chapter* for which the public selected him as the Best Male Actor at the Gala Métrostar for his portrayal of the biker Ross Desbiens.

The theatre has always had a special place in Roy Dupuis's life. His portrayals of roles such as Harold in *Harold & Maude*, directed by Richard Thériault; of Jay in *Le Chien*, directed by Brigitte Haentjens; and of Roméo in *Roméo & Juliette*, directed by Guillermo de Andrea speak for themselves. He was directed again by Brigitte Haentjens in *Un oiseau vivant dans la gueule* by J-M Delisle and in *True West* by Sam Shepard.

Roy Dupuis's film career began with the character of Renaud in the film *Sortie 234* by Michel Langlois, which was noticed at the Festival international du Nouveau Cinéma. Afterwards, he portrayed Yves in *Being at Home with Claude* by Jean Beaudin (presented in Cannes as part of the Certain Regard); Alex in *Cap Tourmente* by Michel Langlois; Pierre-Paul in *Chili's Blues (C'était le 12 du 12 et Chili avait les blues)* by Charles Binamé (shown at the Sundance Festival) and then D. Samson in *Heads or Tails (J'en suis)* by Claude Fournier.

His cinematic career then took an international turn. He appeared in *Screamers* by Christian Duguay (applauded at the Toronto Film Festival), in *Bleeders* by Peter Svatek and in *Free Money* by Yves Simoneau, opposite Marlon Brando.

More recently, he portrayed the memorable role of Alexis in the most popular film in the history of Québec cinema to date, *Séraphin: Heart of Stone (Séraphin: Un homme et son péché)*. In the spring of 2004, he appeared as Gérald in *Machine Gun Molly (Monica la mitraille)* by Pierre Houle; and in the title role of Jack Paradise, by Gilles Noël. Afterwards, he embodied Jack Dekker, an eccentric golfer in André Forcier's most recent film *Les États-Unis d'Albert*. In autumn of 2004, he gave an extraordinary performance in *Looking for Alexander (Mémoires affectives)*, by Francis Leclerc, as Alexander, a character with amnesia searching for himself, for which he was earned the Best Actor award at the Jutras as well as the Génies 2005.

In 2005, on top of starring in Charles Binamé's new film, Roy Dupuis was part of the opening of the *Rendez-vous du Cinéma* in Jeremy Peter Allen's first film *Manners of Dying*, in which he portrays the heart-wrenching role of Kevin Barlow, a man condemned to death. This film, which was highly praised by both American and Canadian critics, will be released in France in the beginning of 2006, overseen by Catherine Deneuve.

He recently incarnated the part of French-Canadian hockey hero Maurice "Rocket" Richard in the film *Maurice Richard (2005)* directed by Charles Binamé that received raved reviews in both English and French Canada and grossed high box-office.

He has also completed an independent film, *That Beautiful Somewhere*, which is based on the 1992 novel *Loon*, by Bill Plumstead; it will be broadcast on Canadian pay television in 2006 and possibly screened in film festivals in fall 2006.

## **ROMEO DALLAIRE**

Lieutenant-General the Honourable Roméo A. Dallaire, O.C., C.M.M., G.O.Q., M.S.C., C.D.,  
(Retired)

Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire is recognized as an advocate of peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding in the world's most war-torn regions.

For the public at large, nationally and internationally, it is following General Dallaire's appointment as Commander of the United Nations Observer Mission- Uganda and Rwanda (UNOMUR) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) on 1 July 1993 that the name Dallaire has been synonymous with courage. In recognition of his exceptional leadership and ability during that mission he was awarded the Meritorious Service Cross.

On his return to Canada, he assumed the simultaneous appointments of Deputy Commander of Land Force Command and Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division. In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General and appointed Assistant Deputy Minister (Human Resources-Military), followed by an appointment as Special Advisor to the Chief of the Defence Staff for Officer Professional Development. General Dallaire was medically released from the Canadian Forces in April 2002.

General Dallaire is an Officer of the Order of Canada, Grand Officer of the National Order of Québec and has been awarded the United States Legion of Merit. He is also the first recipient of the Aegis Award on Genocide Prevention, the United Nations Association of Canada's Pearson Peace Medal. His recently published account of the 1994 Rwandan genocide *Shake Hands with the Devil – the Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*, has earned international recognition as well as the 2004 Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction and the "Shaughnessy Cohen Prize" for political writing awarded by the Writers' Trust of Canada.

While a Fellow of the Carr Centre for Human Rights Policy, the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University he conducted research in the areas of conflict resolution and the elimination of the use of child soldiers.

General Dallaire was summoned to the Senate on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Senator Dallaire continues to write and speak out against human rights abuses, genocide and ethnic cleansing. He continues to focus on human rights and the plight of war affected children in articles and lectures in Canada, the US, the UK, Europe, and Africa. In April, 2006 he was appointed to a United Nations Advisory Committee on Genocide Prevention by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

## **ROGER SPOTTISWOODE**

Producer/Director/Writer

### FEATURES (director)

RIPLEY UNDER GROUND

SPINNING BORIS

The 6TH DAY

TOMORROW NEVER DIES

MESMER

STOP! OR MY MOM WILL SHOOT

AIR AMERICA

TURNER & HOOCH

SHOOT TO KILL

THE BEST OF TIMES

UNDER FIRE

THE PURSUIT OF D.B. COOPER

TERROR TRAIN

Willem Dafoe, Alan Cumming, Barry Pepper  
Showtime, Jeff Goldblum

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Michael Rappaport  
MGM UA, Pierce Brosnan, Jonathan Pryce

Donal Donally

Sylvester Stallone, Estelle Getty

Mel Gibson, Robert Downey Jr.

Tom Hanks

Steven Segal

Robin Williams, Kurt Russell

Nick Nolte, Gene Hackman, Ed Harris

Robert Duvall

Jamie Lee Curtis, Ben Johnson

### TELEVISION

ICE BOUND

THE MATTHEW SHEPPARD STORY

\*Emmy Award – Stockard Channing (Best Actress)

NORIEGA: GOD'S FAVORITE

MURDER LIVE!

PRINCE STREET

HIROSHIMA

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON

THIRD DEGREE BURN

THE LAST INNOCENT MAN

THE RENEGADES

Susan Sarandon

CBS/Alliance Atlantis

Showtime

MOW

NBC – Pilot, 1hr

Showtime – 4hr mini-series

HBO

HBO

### PRODUCER

NORIEGA: GOD'S FAVORITE

BABY...SECRET OF THE LOST LEGEND

WHO'LL STOP THE RAIN

(MOW) (executive producer)

(executive producer)

(associate producer)

### WRITER

48 HOURS

ANOTHER 48 HRS.

## MICHAEL DONOVAN (PRODUCER)

Academy Award-winning Producer, Michael Donovan, co-founder of Halifax Film has over 20 years experience creating, financing, producing and marketing Canadian film and television programming. He co-founded the Canadian production company Salter Street Films in 1983, which merged with Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. in 2001.

His work in the Canadian television and film industry has been recognized with numerous Gemini Awards, three International Emmy nominations, a Primetime Emmy nomination and an Academy Award for the feature documentary ***Bowling for Columbine***. Mr. Donovan's previous credits include the multi award-winning television industry satire ***Made in Canada*** and social satire ***The Awful Truth***. He also produced the drama series ***Emily of New Moon***, the long-running comedy series ***CODCO*** and was Executive Producer for the dramatic mini-series ***Shattered City: The Halifax Explosion***. As well, Mr. Donovan has produced a number of award-winning feature films including ***Buried on Sunday***, ***Major Crime*** and ***Diplomatic Immunity***.

Mr. Donovan is currently the Executive Producer of the hit comedy series ***This Hour Has 22 Minutes***; the stop-motion animation pre-school series ***POKO***, Season III; and a CG animation pre-school series, ***Bo on the Go!*** As well, he is Executive Producer for the feature film ***Shake Hands with the Devil*** based on retired General Romeo Dallaire's award-winning book of the same name.

## HALIFAX FILM

Halifax Film, co-founded by Michael Donovan and Charles Bishop, develops and produces original film and television programming. Halifax Film manages and co-ordinates all aspects of a program's life, including developing original ideas; purchasing literary rights; arranging production financing; carrying out production and post-production; and exploiting worldwide distribution rights. Halifax Film is a subsidiary of DHX Media Ltd., a leading international producer and distributor of television programming and interactive content with an emphasis on children, family and youth markets.

Halifax Film has recently completed principal photography of the feature film ***Shake Hands with the Devil***, a co-production with Barna-Alper. As well, the company has completed production of the Gemini award-winning pre-school stop-motion animation series ***POKO, III*** and the drama series ***NORTH/SOUTH***. Halifax Film is currently producing the multi-awarding winning hit comedy series ***This Hour Has 22 Minutes***, XIV; a CG animation pre-school series ***Bo on the Go!***; and co-producing with Alliance Atlantis Communications the children's stop-motion animation series, ***Lunar Jim, II***.

## LASZLO BARNA (PRODUCER)

**Laszlo Barna** is President/CEO of Toronto-based Barna-Alper Productions, which is currently celebrating its 26<sup>th</sup> year in the entertainment industry. Co-founded with partner Laura Alper, Barna-Alper is arguably Canada's leading independent production firm in both drama and documentary programming.

Renowned for his prodigious energy, humour, and commitment to excellence, Laszlo Barna's long list of credits and awards attest not only to his skills as a businessperson and storyteller, but also to his ability to attract the best talents in the industry.

Barna's executive producing credits include: the five-time Gemini winner for Best Dramatic Series *"DaVinci's Inquest"* for CBC; the Gemini winning *"Blue Murder"* for Global; the new spin-off series *"DaVinci's City Hall,"* the up-coming second season comedy series *G Spot* for TMN/Movie Central and the feature film adaptation of the bestselling book by General Roméo Dallaire, *"Shake Hands With The Devil."*

Barna-Alper's forthcoming television movies include CBC's highly rated *"Shania: A Life in Eight Albums"* and the upcoming mini-series *"October 1970"* for the CBC. These productions follow in Barna-Alper's tradition of high-quality, high-impact movies such as: *"Betrayed," "Scorn," "Milgaard," "At the End of the Day: The Sue Rodriguez Story," "Diana Kilmury: Teamster," "Open Heart," "Whiskey Echo"* and *"Choice: The Henry Morgentaler Story."*

Barna continues to executive produce many successful documentary films and programs, all of which have garnered many Canadian and international awards. These include: long-running series such as *"Turning Points of History" (History), "Frontiers of Construction" (Discovery),* as well as the recent series *"Mega Builders" (Discovery);* one-off documentary films such as the award-winning and internationally acclaimed *"Offspring"* and *"The Last Just Man;"* and the feature-length documentary, *"The Take."*

Laszlo Barna has an enduring commitment to a thriving Canadian production industry: he was the former Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Film and Television Producers Association and has represented the organization on the Canadian Television Fund.

In 2000, Barna received the Chetwynd Award in recognition of entrepreneurial achievement and contribution to the Canadian production industry. In April 2002, he went to Carleton University's School of Journalism and Communications to give the prestigious Kesterton Lecture.

Laszlo Barna delights in sharing his experiences and knowledge; he is a frequent lecturer at the Canadian Film Centre, and has taught courses at the National Screen Institute as well as other schools and industry training forums.

## **BARNA-ALPER PRODUCTION INC (PRODUCER)**

With a rich history of more than 25 years, Barna-Alper is Canada's leading independent production company. Renowned for its exemplary dramatic and documentary production, the company has garnered numerous national and international awards over the years.

In 2006, Barna-Alper will be producing the film adaptation of the bestselling book by General Roméo Dallaire, ***Shake Hands With The Devil***. Barna-Alper's upcoming dramatic slate also includes the CBC series ***October 1970***, about the FLQ and the biggest political crisis in post-war Canadian history and the prestige CTV movie ***Céline***, about the life and music of international superstar *Céline* Dion.

In addition to the return of the flagship factual series ***Mega Builders*** and ***Turning Point of History***, the company's 2006 documentary slate includes the Hot Docs selected feature ***Fatherland, Bomber's Dream***, and the CBC mini-series ***Driving Dreams***.

Barna-Alper has lengthy history in compelling dramatic series television including the US syndication hit ***Da Vinci's Inquest*** (CBC), its spin-off series ***Da Vinci's City Hall*** (CBC), award-winning police drama ***Blue Murder*** (Global), the sexy ***Show Me Yours*** (Showcase) and the outrageous comedy of ***G-Spot*** (The Movie Network/Movie Central/Showcase).

Entertaining, high-impact, and provocative television movies like ***October 1970*** and ***Céline*** come from a long tradition of topical and inspiring past productions, including ***Shania: A Life In Eight Albums***, the mini-series ***Whiskey Echo, Open Heart, Choice, Hard Times: The David Milgaard Story, Betrayed, Scorn, At the End of the Day: The Sue Rodriguez Story and Diana Kilmury: Teamster***.

Barna-Alper's production of prime time, fact-based series — the current Discovery Channel hit ***Mega Builders***, the acclaimed ***Turning Points of History*** (History Television) and ***Frontiers of Construction*** (Discovery Channel) — form a key component of the company's programming. Along with these programs, the company continues to produce event-limited series and one-offs, such as the critically acclaimed and award-winning ***The Last Just Man, Offspring*** and the international festival circuit hit feature documentary ***The Take***.

The company's development focus builds on the strengths of Barna-Alper's expertise, while expanding its horizons; producing series, mini-series, television movies, feature films and documentaries in association with all of Canada's major broadcasters, many of the specialty networks and international partners. Stories about people and events that resonate with television viewers around the world, define the spirit of Barna-Alper's past and future productions.

MIPTV 2005 in Cannes marked the official launch of Barna-Alper Releasing. The division's initial focus is on the distribution of select Barna-Alper productions offering some of Canada's finest drama to the international markets. Over time, Barna-Alper Releasing will take on top-quality projects from other producers that reflect the company's vision and share the same excellent production values.

Barna-Alper is led by Laszlo Barna, a passionate advocate for the Canadian film and television industry. The company's outstanding reputation for quality in both dramatic and documentary programming continuously attracts internationally recognized creative talent and strong business partners. With 25 years of experience behind it, Barna-Alper continues making productions that garner the interest of major broadcasters, distributors, and, most important, are relevant to audiences around the world.

## **MARTIN KATZ (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)**

Martin Katz is President and founder of **Prospero Pictures**, a Toronto-based film production and finance company specializing in international co-productions.

Martin has produced or executive produced numerous award-winning feature films, notably the Academy Award and Golden Globe Multi-nominee, *Hotel Rwanda*, David Cronenberg's award-winning *Spider* and Bronwyn Hughes' *Stander*, which the London Observer called "the greatest heist film since *Reservoir Dogs*." He is currently in post-production on *It's a Boy Girl Thing*, a co-production with Elton John and David Furnish's Rocket Pictures and is completing filming on Richard Attenborough's *Closing the Ring*, starring Shirley MacLaine, Christopher Plummer and Mischa Barton.

Martin has a twenty-year history in all aspects of media production and finance. Prior to founding Prospero Pictures, Martin was President and Chief Operating Officer of Grosvenor Park Film Financing Corporation. Previously, Martin served as Executive Producer at The Microsoft Network, and as a Producer and Executive Producer at Alliance Atlantis. He has also served as Head of Business Affairs at CBC Television.

An internet pioneer, Martin was employee number 3 at Microsoft's MSN Canada where, as Executive Producer, he created the first episodic "web-umentary." The web-based documentary entitled *Splice* examined the work of Marshall McLuhan in the context of a society in transition from an analogue to a digital world. He developed and produced innovative interactive programming in collaboration with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Carol Shields, celebrated director David Cronenberg and comedians Jean-Guy Moreau and Rick Mercer. He also created the first 3-D internet experience, a Halloween special based on the successful YTV kids' series, *Freaky Stories*.

Martin has extensive experience as a producer of international treaty co-productions involving Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Luxembourg, Germany, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

Martin holds degrees in law from the Universities of Toronto and Paris and has served as professor of law at the French-language University of Moncton and Special Lecturer in Intellectual Property Law at the University of Toronto.